

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 01050

USUN NEW YORK FOR MEZVINSKY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM
SUBJECT: 34TH SESSION HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION - PROPOSED
MEETING BETWEEN MEZVINSKY AND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
CHAIRMAN M'BAYE

REF: STATE 015786

1. MISOFF HAS INQUIRED IF M'BAYE WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR
MEETING WITH U.S. REP EDWARD MEZVINSKY PRIOR TO THE HUMAN
RIGHTS SESSION, AND IF SO WHEN. M'BAYE REPLIED THAT HE
WOULD BE DEPARTING GENEVA JANUARY 24 AND WOULD NOT BE RE-
TURNING BEFORE FEBRUARY 5. HE NOTED THAT HE WOULD BE IN
DAKAR DURING ABOVE-MENTIONED PERIOD. HE ALSO STATED THAT
DURING SESSION HE WOULD BE STAYING AT THE EPSOM HOTEL AND
HOPED MEZVINSKY WOULD CONTACT HIM THERE.

2. M'BAYE AND MISOFF WERE JOINED BY FRANK CHANDLER
(CANADA) WHO RAISED QUESTION OF UGANDA AND WHAT WOULD BE
DONE ABOUT ISSUE THIS YEAR. M'BAYE NOTED THAT IT WAS DIF-
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FICULT ISSUE BUT EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT SOMETHING WOULD BE
DONE THIS SESSION, CITING THE DEFECTION OF UGANDA'S
MINISTER OF JUSTICE AFTER HIS DEFENSE OF UGANDA BEFORE THE
COMMISSION LAST YEAR -- WHICH HE FOLLOWED UP WITH A LETTER
STATING THE REASONS FOR HIS DEFECTION. THESE ACTS, M'BAYE
BELIEVES, WOULD LEND SUPPORT TO HAVING AN INVESTIGATION OR
STUDY OF UGANDA. M'BAYE ALSO COMMENTED ON THE CUBAN DEL

(MIGUEL ALFONSO) AND NOTED THE CHANGE IN THE TONE OF THE COMMISSION SINCE THE CUBAN MEMBERSHIP AND ALFONSO'S PARTICIPATION. THE IMPLICATION WAS THAT ALFONSO'S PERPETUAL MOTION AND OBSTRUCTIONIST TACTICS PREVENTED THE COMMISSION FROM PURSUING ITS MANDATED OBJECTIVES. CONVERSATION ENDED WITH CHANDLER STATING THAT THE WEST WOULD BE BEHIND M'BAYE'S EFFORTS TO GET UGANDA CITED FOR HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS.

3. COMMENT: M'BAYE'S DEPARTURE FROM GENEVA PRECLUDES ANY MEETING WITH MEZVINSKY UNTIL PERHAPS THE DAY BEFORE THE SESSION OPENS. A MEETING AT HIS HOTEL MIGHT NOT BE SUFFICIENT. LATER MEETINGS WILL BE DIFFICULT SINCE M'BAYE WOULD PROBABLY FEEL COMPROMISED IF SEEN WITH WESTERN DELS AND, IN ADDITION, HRC MACHINERY WILL BE IN MOTION. IF MEZVINSKY PLANS TO MEET WITH OTHER DELS PRIOR TO SESSION AS SUGGESTED REFTEL, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER INCLUDING A MEETING BETWEEN M'BAYE AND MEZVINSKY IN DAKAR SO THAT ANY CONCERNS THE UNITED STATES HAS MIGHT BE GIVEN IN-DEPTH REVIEW. THE ALTERNATIVE MIGHT BE TO HAVE AMBASSADOR CONTACT M'BAYE AS RECOMMENDED IN REFTEL AND IN ADDITION TO MAKING KNOWN U.S. INTERESTS ENCOURAGE M'BAYE TO RETURN TO GENEVA FEBRUARY 4 TO MEET WITH MEZVINSKY. END COMMENT.
VANDEN HEUVEL

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CHAIRMAN M'BAYE
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